

Educational Technology Leadership Internship

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Position Goal

I started this program to increase my knowledge in implementing technology into my math classroom and that continues to be my goal. However, over the course of this program I have looked at myself in a leadership role. I plan to continue taking courses offered through the district, Region IV, and other technology programs. The Educational Technology Masters program through Lamar Academic Partnership has been phenomenal. It has afforded me the opportunity to get a masters degree. I have learned so much. I have learned about the wealth of information on the internet. I have learned how to use Google applications, a wiki as a learning tool, upload and search for information on the internet.

Leadership Goal

As an Educational Technology Leader I hope to grow into a technology leader especially in the areas of math integration in technology. I want to assist my current campus Education Technology Specialist in further campus technology needs, and the principal in research and identifying what works in technology. I have a desire to stay up-to-date with the changes in technology because the students I teach are very technology savvy. I want to be able to challenge them and not bore them. I want to inspire creativity through technology. I am confident that I am ready to lead as a Technology Instructional Specialist. I know how to research campus data and what areas to focus on for school improvement.

Vision of Educational Technology

I have learned that adapting to the immersion of technology as an integral part of the classroom is a definite. Schools must make the necessary changes to keep students interested in learning because as educators we no other alternative. “Increasingly, technology skills are also critical to

success in almost every arena, and those who are more facile with technology will advance while those without access or skills will not.” (Johnson, 2009) My vision of educational technology is that all students are able to fully use technology resources when they are at school. Classrooms are equip with surround systems and projectors that can take students anywhere in the world. Teachers are given ongoing integration of technology training that directly relates to their curriculum and what is really going on in the classroom. “Students working in collaborative environments also have opportunities to connect with experts, professional, researches, and others beyond their classroom walls.” (Johnson, 2009) They will have access to www.futureschannel.com to research jobs that they inspire to become and use that information for ongoing projects that incorporate that profession. Every student has his/her own personal laptop or has access to one daily. Students set up their own wiki pages and blogs as part of the curriculum to journal their content objectives, successes, and difficulties throughout the year. The software allows students to add specific schools within the district to blogs and wikis so they so they can collaborate with their sister schools.

I have learned throughout this program that continued learning in this changing society is good for me. I have learned that I have to take extra time to be organized. I have learned that I am capable of being a leader. I have learned that leaders don’t give up they persevere. I also realized that I really want this and there is so much I have learned already and so much more that I want to know. I don’t want to be a digital immigrant. I’ve learned that Texas has a plan for continued integration of technology in schools and this is very exciting. I have learned that there will always be deadlines. It is important for me to pace myself and establish a schedule for completing all assignments in a timely manner. I have learned that I can become a technology leader in my school. I have learned how collaboration can work and be effective. I have the

ability to lead and guide people for the benefit of the group. A positive attitude is good attribute in leadership. It helps everyone feel that they have voice. These experiences have forced me to see what I need to do as an educator to help students compete on a global scale. Collaboration is a good tool when it used to for the benefit of everyone in the organization. I was pleased to see my since of confidence in what I could accomplish. I have learned that I am becoming a more educated thinker in how technology is incorporated in the classroom thus making me a better technology leader. Learning to implement online learning will benefit my students just like it benefits me. Designing instruction backwards is a better way of helping improve student performance because as the instructor the questions are not just put together at the end, but before you start the lesson. This design forces you "to think about assessment" all the time especially if you want better test scores. (Wiggins, 2000) The job of technology educational specialist has different requirements depending on the campus and the principal. Technology requires me to be flexible and open to change.

All the courses in this program were insightful. I have learned multiple applications for integrating technology in education from all of them. These are my top six in no particular order.

Concepts of Educational Technology 5306 were my first course and I really liked the flow of this course. It was well organized and the format of checks and balances kept me on track. I especially liked the visual video lectures and the You Tube 21st Century Connections with the articles and progress monitors both video and reading. The actual course outcomes where to identify and explore the Texas Long Range Plan for Technology and all key components, read and examine articles about technology in education, understand the difference between digital immigrant versus digital native to better assess the needs of both groups,

establish online learning communities, discover ways of increasing the effectiveness of professional development with emphasis in technology, and preparing students with the tools of cyber ethics. Actually it was a lot better than I had envisioned, I thought there was no way that I could learn all the course outcomes in the time period allowed. The learning outcomes have given me access to different sources of information from the perspectives of professionals and the state. I also created a blog and a wiki two effective communication tools that I had never used before.

The course 5364 *Teaching with Technology* exposed me to various websites and educators that envision what the future of education will need. These experiences have forced me to see what I need to do as an educator to help students compete on a global scale. The actual course outcomes immersed me in full collaboration with my peers. I have been able to not only read, but also do collaborative work. This course surprisingly gave me a hands-on approach to learning the same way I would want my students to feel about learning. The actual course outcomes did more than I expected and I have earned a new respect for integrating technology into the classroom.

The course 5335 *Curriculum Management* has provided me with the knowledge of what curriculum and instruction really means and how it should be developed in classrooms. The articles referenced in this course gave me real-world references for inspiration and steps for improvement that work. I have a better understanding of how groups work and that disagreement is imperative to positive growth and decision making. The most important thing to relate to staff members about curriculum management is the components of the TEA learning system and how to identify weakness in the existing curriculum.

My next favorite course was 5363 *Multimedia and Technology* because it was the first time I had to participate in a synchronous Web conference and blog about it on my own blog site. I had the opportunity to share with the class my experience meeting Dr. Abernathy in person at the Houston Children's Museum. People may take for granted that everyone has used some kind of photo software and has a digital camera, however this was the first time I had used Microsoft Photo Story 3 or wrote a script. This course forced me to create a lasting memory in collaboration with my son that I am still proud of today.

I enjoyed the *Schoology* experience in 5368 *Instructional Design*. It gave me an idea of what it is like to management and be administrator to an online course. It also taught me how to deviate through an online management system and how to reference help with troubleshooting in the process. Designing instruction backwards is a better way of helping improve student performance because as the instructor the questions are not just put together at the end, but before you start the lesson. Learning to implement online learning will benefit my students just like it benefits me.

The last course 5366 *Digital Graphics and Desktop Publishing* was an introduction of design. We often referred to the word CRAP meaning contrast, repetition, alignment, and proximity. This course was exciting. In week 1 we looked at different images such as the poster from the movie *Sweet Home Alabama* and the choice of text, size, and colors used to reflect the movie title and the feeling the audience receives. I learned the importance of those four words in media relations and to advertising in general. The style of text used has an interpretation to the reader. This is the course where I discovered that there were virtual books. The British Library has this collection of original books for the world to see free online. I thought of myself as a teacher and as a brand. I created my own logo. It was creative to think of myself as a brand and

an image. This is what technology integration is supposed to do. It gives us the opportunity to learn from anywhere all over the world.